

# CURRICULUM COUNCIL

December 14, 2011

Minutes



- ☐ Welcome – Committee Work
  - Communication | Contribution | Collaboration
- ☐ Continuing Our Focus
  - Continued support of writer's workshop K - 8
  - Continued support of SAS & curriculum development in the Toolbox
  - Integration of literacy strategies across content areas
- ☐ High School Improvement Process  
*Cynthia Hutchinson*
  - Ms. Hutchinson explained the work of the break-out groups that are focusing on specific priorities across the high school (curriculum, instruction & assessment, professional development, student focused, and administrative management)
  - A few teachers shared priorities from their respective groups.
- ☐ 2011 SAS Institute  
*Cynthia Hutchinson*
  - Ms. Hutchinson explained the focus of this year's SAS institute, which was primarily the new teacher evaluation tool. Information about the tool is located on the SAS portal for your review. You may also want to check out NYC DOE site for an example of the New York tool, which according to Charlotte Danielson is the same as the PA tool.
  - Also mentioned was information regarding the Keystone assessments. The unofficial word on the street is that PSSA tests will evolve as follows:
    - English Literature Keystone replaces reading PSSA
    - English Composition Keystone replaces writing PSSA
    - Algebra I Keystone replaces math PSSA
    - Biology Keystone replaces sciences PSSA
    - Civics Keystone is integrated as a social studies test
  - This also means that there will be (unofficially) five required Keystone assessments.
- ☐ keystones to Opportunity grant - Work is in progress to complete this grant, which could award the district between \$250,000 to \$1,000,000. The grant is a birth through grade 12 grant. The PA Comprehensive Literacy Plan and the MW needs analysis are both available on the wiki.
- ☐ January PD
  - Priority lists – **TO DO (Send list to Daphne a.s.a.p.)**

- ☐ Time in SAS – **TO DO (Explore the areas of SAS below)**
  - Teacher Account
  - Exploration
    - Teaching Framework
    - Safe & Supportive Schools
    - Volunteer Model Curriculum in SAS
      - What is your initial reaction to the content?
      - How is curriculum compared to your curriculum now?
  - Question to Ponder: Do we move our curriculum maps into SAS and use SAS as our primary resource, or do we continue to SAS in addition to the LFS Toolbox?
- ☐ Other Items – N/A

*“In a complex and sometimes even dangerous world, their ability to read will be crucial.  
Continual instruction beyond the early grades is needed.”*  
International Reading Association (Moore et al., 1999, p. 3)